



March 12, 2026
Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority
Technical Program and Curriculum Committee

Curtis State Office Building
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 520
Topeka, KS 66612

2025 - 2026 Committee Members

Mike Beene, Chair
Debra Mikulka

Cindy Hoover, Vice Chair
Dr. Tiffany Anderson
David Reist

Ray Frederick, Jr.
Natalie Clark

Building a Future

Higher Education's Commitment to Kansas Families, Business, and the Economy

1. Helping Kansas families
2. Supporting Kansas business
3. Advancing economic prosperity

TEA Technical Program and Curriculum Committee Meeting

Table of Contents

I. Call to Order	
II. Approval of Minutes	
A. February 5, 2026 Meeting.....	6
III. Consideration of Discussion Agenda	
A. Act on Requests for New Certificate and/or Degree Programs from Community Colleges and Technical Colleges	
1. Act on Program Proposal in Computer Support Specialist, Manhattan Area Technical College.....	8
2. Act on Program Proposal in Electrical Power Distribution, Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology.....	11
B. Promise Act	
1. Manhattan Area Technical College.....	26
2. Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology.....	27
IV. Adjournment	

2025-2026 KANSAS POSTSECONDARY TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY GOALS



Goals

- 1) Evaluate the impact of the modernized National Career Cluster Framework implementation on the Kansas postsecondary education system, funding, and reporting. Develop a plan for transfer to the new Framework which aligns with the secondary education system.
- 2) Investigate the active duty and veteran student services in the Kansas postsecondary system, specifically the use of military-originated credit articulation and transfer procedures. Evaluate current military-originated credit data, identify reporting gaps, and develop a set of criteria and recommendations for effective military-originated data collection and reporting.
- 3) Resume program performance reviews using previously established criteria to validate and communicate the value of technical education in developing a skilled workforce and meeting the needs of business and industry.
- 4) Identify and share best practices in reducing and/or eliminating the actual fees high school students participating in the Excel in CTE programs are assessed and ensure actual costs and potential subsidies are adequately communicated.
- 5) Partner with Kansas technical colleges to develop and implement targeted objectives that guide the use of the Kansas Technical College Operating Grant Fund (HB 2195) in supporting instructional and operational priorities.
- 6) Collaborate with the Excel in CTE Task Force to develop a system-wide policy for course failures, create consistent placement guidelines for participating high school students, and finalize the review of Excel in CTE programs needing further analysis.
- 7) Diversify and strengthen the Adult Education funding base to expand and sustain services, while advancing collaboration and integration among Community Colleges, Technical Colleges, and Adult Education Centers.

Agenda

Program and Curriculum Committee of the Technical Education Authority Meeting Agenda

I. Call to Order

Presenter: Chair Beene

II. Approval of Minutes

A. February 5, 2026 Meeting

III. Consideration of Discussion Agenda

A. Act on Requests for New Certificate and/or Degree Programs from Community Colleges and Technical Colleges

To strengthen and expand the talent pipeline serving Kansas business and industry, the development of new programs and the enhancement of existing offerings are essential. Community and technical colleges submit proposals for new certificate and degree programs using forms approved by Kansas Board of Regents staff.

The application process evaluates several key criteria, including but not limited to: a detailed program description, demonstrated workforce demand, potential duplication of existing programs, faculty and staffing requirements, projected costs and funding sources, and evidence of institutional approval.

1. Act on Program Proposal in Computer Support Specialist, Manhattan Area Technical College

Presenter: Charmine Chambers

To strengthen and expand the talent pipeline for Kansas business and industry, the development of new and expanded academic programs remains essential. The Board office has received a proposal from Manhattan Area Technical College (MATC) to offer a 17-credit Technical Certificate A, a 32-credit Technical Certificate B, and a 62-credit Associate of Applied Science in Computer Support Specialist (CIP 11.1006).

Labor market data indicate continued demand for computer support specialists in Kansas. The occupation ranks 75th of 796 occupations statewide, with 540 annual openings and a median annual wage of \$50,870, according to the Kansas Department of Labor. Lightcast job postings (February 2025–February 2026) reported 3,007 total postings (1,301 unique) with a median advertised salary of \$57,500, and most positions require an associate's degree or less for entry. MATC has met all required criteria for program approval. In accordance with Board policy, a 10-day public comment period was held from February 19, 2026, through March 5, 2026, during which no comments were received. The proposed program was subsequently reviewed by Board staff and is presented for review and discussion by the Technical Education Authority's Program and Curriculum Committee.

2. Act on Program Proposal in Electrical Power Distribution, Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology

Presenter: Charmine Chambers

To strengthen and expand the talent pipeline for Kansas business and industry, the development of new and expanded academic programs remains essential. The Board office has received a proposal from Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology (WSU Tech) to offer a 42-credit Technical Certificate B and a 63-credit Associate of Applied Science in Electric Power Distribution (CIP 46.0301).

Labor market data indicate demand for this occupation in Kansas. According to the Kansas Department of Labor Long-Term Occupational Projections (2022–2032), the occupation ranks 237th of 796 occupations statewide, with 116 annual openings and a median annual wage of \$102,400. Lightcast job postings (December 2024–December 2025) reported 412 total postings (147 unique) with a median advertised salary of \$105,200, and postings indicate a high school diploma or GED as the typical minimum education requirement for entry.

WSU Tech has met the required criteria for program approval. In accordance with Board policy, a 10-day public comment period was held from January 15, 2026, through January 29, 2026, during which a letter of opposition was received from Pratt Community College.

The proposed program was subsequently reviewed by the Technical Education Authority’s Program and Curriculum Committee in February 2026 and was tabled pending further communication between Pratt Community College and WSU Tech.

B. Promise Act

The Kansas Legislature enacted the Kansas Promise Scholarship Act, which provides scholarships for students to attend an eligible postsecondary education institution. Eligible programs include any two-year associate degree program, career and technical education certificate, or stand-alone program that are approved by the Board of Regents and correspond to high wage, high demand, or critical need occupations in:

- *four specified fields of study (information technology and security; mental and physical healthcare; advanced manufacturing and building trades; and early childhood education and development).*
- *one college designated field of study from the specified list (Agriculture; Food and Natural Resources; Education and Training; Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security; or Distribution and Logistics).*
- *transfer programs with established 2+2 and/or articulation agreements.*

1. Manhattan Area Technical College

Presenter: Charmine Chambers

The Kansas Promise Scholarship Act defines Promise-eligible programs as Board-approved two-year associate degrees or technical certificates in high-wage, high-demand, or critical-need fields such as IT, healthcare, manufacturing and trades, and early childhood education. Institutions may also designate certain additional high-need fields tied to local workforce demand, and transfer programs must meet specific 2+2 or articulation agreement requirements. Manhattan Area Technical College’s Computer Support Specialist program (CIP 11.1006) is recommended for Promise Act eligibility. The program falls under the Information Technology and Security category specified in legislation. SOC 15-1232 for Computer User Support

Specialists was identified as a High Demand occupation on the 2025 High Demand Occupations list from the Kansas Department of Labor.

2. Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology

Presenter: Charmine Chambers

The Kansas Promise Scholarship Act defines Promise-eligible programs as Board-approved two-year associate degrees or technical certificates in high-wage, high-demand, or critical-need fields such as IT, healthcare, manufacturing and trades, and early childhood education.

Institutions may also designate certain additional high-need fields tied to local workforce demand, and transfer programs must meet specific 2+2 or articulation agreement requirements.

Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology's Electric Power Distribution program (CIP 46.0301) is recommended for Promise Act eligibility. The program falls under the Advanced Manufacturing and Building Trades category specified in legislation. SOC 49-9051 for Electrical and Power Transmission Installation/Installer, General was identified as a High Wage occupation on the 2025 High Demand Occupations list from the Kansas Department of Labor.

IV. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 9, 2026

**KANSAS POSTSECONDARY
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY**
Technical Program and Curriculum Committee
MINUTES
February 5, 2026

The Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority's Technical Program and Curriculum Committee met via Zoom on February 5, 2026. Proper notice was given according to the law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Reist
 Natalie Clark
 Debra Mikulka
 Ray Frederick, Jr.
 Dr. Tiffany Anderson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike Beene, Chair
 Cindy Hoover, Vice Chair

Member Reist called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Reist requested a motion regarding the minutes of the committee's January 8, 2026, meeting.

Member Frederick moved to approve the minutes as presented, and Member Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF DISCUSSION AGENDA

Act on Request(s) for Degree and/or Certificate Programs from Community Colleges and Technical Colleges:

Charmine Chambers, Director for Workforce Development, presented a request from Washburn University Institute of Technology: Medical Assistant (51.0801) program. Detailed program information, rationale, demand, existing programs, and costs/funding for the requested program are included in the February 5, 2026, meeting packet materials.

1. Washburn University Institute of Technology: Medical Assistant (51.0801)

Member Frederick moved to approve Washburn University Institute of Technology's request for a Medical Assistant program to be added to February 19, 2026, TEA consent agenda. Member Clark seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Director Chambers then presented a request from Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology: Electric Power Distribution (46.0301) program. Detailed program information, rationale, demand, existing programs, and costs/funding for the requested program are included in the February 5, 2026, meeting packet materials.

2. Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology: Electric Power Distribution (46.0301)

Member Frederick moved to table WSU Tech's request for an Electric Power Distribution program until WSU and Pratt Community College can try to resolve issues. Member Mikulka seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Director Chambers then presented a request from Manhattan Area Technical College: Electrician (46.0302) program. Detailed program information, rationale, demand, existing programs, and costs/funding for the requested program are included in the February 5, 2026, meeting packet materials.

3. Manhattan Area Technical College: Electrician (46.0302)

Member Frederick moved to approve Manhattan Area Technicals College's request for an Electrician program to be added to February 19, 2026, TEA consent agenda. Member Clark seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Act on Request(s) for New Promise Act Program(s)

Director Chambers presented background information regarding Washburn University Institute of Technology: Medical Assistant (51.0801) and Manhattan Area Technical College: Electrician (46.0302) requests to be eligible for the Promise Act Scholarship. Member Clark moved to approve; Member Mikulka seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Act on Request(s) for Excel in CTE Fee Approval

Director Chambers presented background information on the new program/certificate that meets the guidelines for fees associated with Excel in CTE courses and programs from Washburn University Institute of Technology. Member Frederick moved to approve the request to be added to February 19, 2026, TEA consent agenda. Member Mikulka seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Discuss Tiered to Non-Tiered Course Review

Director Chambers lead discussion on tiered and non-tiered course review. She provided information on the review process for tiered and non-tiered courses and the use of the courses in institutions. Member Anderson moved to bring the discussion to February 19, 2026, TEA consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Member Mikulka and the motion passed.

NEXT MEETING REMINDER

Member Reist announced that the next scheduled Program and Committee Meeting would be on March 12, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Reist adjourned the meeting at 4:15 P.M.

Act on Request to Approve Technical Certificate A, Technical Certificate B, and Associate of Applied Science degree in Computer Support Specialist for Manhattan Area Technical College

I. General Information and Program Identification

Program Title	Computer Support Specialist
Degree Level(s) and Credit Hours	Technical Certificate A/17 credit hours, Technical Certificate B/32 credit hours, and Associate of Applied Science/62 credit hours
Responsible Department or Unit	Kerri Belamy, Chief Academic officer
CIP Code	11.1006 Computer Support Specialist
SOC Code	15-1232 Computer User Support Specialists
Industry-Recognized Certifications	CompTIA A +, CompTIA Network+, CompTIA Security +, CompTIA CySA+, CompTIA PenTest+
Clinical Sites/Work-Based Learning	Occupational work experience courses are available as electives.
Number of Projected Enrollments	Year 1: 12 Year 2: 24 Year 3: 24
Accrediting Body Approval Status	NA
Aligned Program Status	Yes
Proposed Implementation	Fall 2026

II. Program Rationale and Information

Manhattan Area Technical College (MATC) indicated the Computer Support Specialist program was developed in response to documented regional demand for skilled professionals in IT support, networking, and cybersecurity. The need was identified through advisory committee input, labor market analysis, and engagement with local economic development partners, including the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce and regional employers.

This program has undergone the system-level Program Alignment process, and MATC indicated it will meet statewide alignment requirements. A degree map was provided in the application, and this program consists of a single pathway or track. Occupational Work Experience will be available as an optional elective. USD 383 Manhattan High School provided a letter of support as the program will be offered to high school students.

III. Program Demand – Note: High Demand/High Wage occupation, 2025 Kansas Occupational Employment Demand listing.

A. Source: Kansas Department of Labor Long-Term Occupational Outlook

Occupational Demand Ranking	75 of 796
Annual change in employment:	0.3%
Annual median wage:	\$50,870,400
Annual openings:	540
Typical education for occupation entry:	Some college, no degree and moderate-term on-the-job training

B. Source: Lightcast Job Postings: February 2025 – February 2026 for the state of Kansas

Total postings:	3,007 Total, (1,301 unique)
Annual median advertised salary:	\$57,500
Removing job postings with no education level listed, 75% of postings indicate an associate’s degree or less as the minimum education for entry in the occupation. (Including job postings with no education level listed, 5,135	

total postings (2,195 unique) were reported, with an advertised salary of \$54,100, and 64% of the job postings listed high school diploma/GED or no education as the education requirement for entry.)

MATC indicated that during the most recent Perkins V Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA), the Computer Support Specialist occupational area met high demand and high wage criteria based on Kansas Department of Labor data. At that time, 32 concentrators were available in the related program area.

MATC provided the following breakdown from employer partners concerning the anticipated hiring needs and annual salaries:

Education Level (Proposed)	Data Source Utilized – Kansas Only	Current Employment	# of Job Openings	Entry Level Hourly Wage/Annual Salary
CERTA/CERTB (16-44 CH)	Central National Bank	290	3 over the next 3 years	\$39,000 annual median
	United Bank & Trust	110	15 over the next 3 years	\$40,000 annual median
	Tylo Technologies	3	3 over the next 3 years	\$37,000 annual median
AAS (60-68 CH)	Central National Bank	290	3 over the next 3 years	\$46,000 annual median
	Tylo Technologies	3	3 over the next 3 years	\$42,000 annual median

Additionally, MATC identified the program exit points aligned to distinct industry roles specified by regional employers. Certificate A prepares students for entry-level roles such as Help Desk Technician and Tier 1 Computer User Support Specialist, Certificate B preparing students for mid-level roles including Desktop Support Technician and IT Support Specialist, and the Associate of Applied Science degree prepares graduates for advanced roles such as Network Support Specialist and Junior Systems Administrator.

Letters of support were received from the City of Manhattan, Central National Bank, Trenchant Cyber Security, Tylo Technologies, and Fort Riley. Support and commitments for the program include offering internships, donations, curriculum development and review, and serving on the advisory committee.

IV. Duplication of Existing Programs and Collaboration

Currently 8 institutions offer this program based on CIP code and/or program title. Below are the colleges, programs, total number of concentrators, total number of graduates, total number of graduates exiting the higher education system and employed, and average wage of graduates who exited the higher education system and are employed information from the 2024 K-TIP report, which includes only technical programs in two-year postsecondary institutions.

Kansas Training Information Program						
2024 K-TIP Computer Support Specialist 11.1006						
CIP Code	Program Name	Institution	Total # Concentrators	Total # Graduates	Total # Graduates Exited & Employed	Average Wage: Graduates Exited & Employed
11.1006	Computer Support Specialists	Garden City Community College	7	7	^	^
11.1006	Computer Support Specialists	Highland Community College	14	^	^	^
11.1006	Computer Support Specialists	Hutchinson Community College	9	^	^	^

11.1006	Computer Support Specialists	Johnson County Community College	74	20	12	\$40,157
11.1006	Computer Support Specialists	Kansas City Kansas Community College	20	11	^	^
11.1006	Computer Support Specialists	Neosho County Community College	5	^	^	^
11.1006	Computer Support Specialists	Seward County Community College	10	^	^	^
11.1006	Computer Support Specialists	Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology	160	48	28	\$39,095
Total			299	100	61	\$40,901

(^) small cell protection applied.

In developing the program, MATC conducted outreach to peer institutions to explore collaboration and share best practices. On October 5, 2025, MATC contacted Highland Community College and WSU Tech regarding potential collaboration, with a campus and program tour scheduled with WSU Tech. Faculty conducted a campus and program visit to Flint Hills Technical College on October 9, 2025, and held a virtual meeting with Fort Hays Tech North Central on October 2, 2025, to exchange program development insights. MATC indicated these efforts were intended to ensure coordination and alignment within the Kansas technical education system.

V. Cost and Funding for Proposed Program

The college estimates the initial implementation cost of the proposed program at **\$69,000 total**, which includes one full-time faculty member. Funding sources include the MATC General Fund and capital outlay.

- Equipment: \$5,000
- Tools/Supplies: \$2,500
- Instructional Materials: \$1,000
- Technology/Software Licensing: \$2,500
- Faculty: \$58,000 for one new, full-time faculty

Act on Request to Approve Technical Certificate B and Associate of Applied Science degree in Electric Power Distribution for Wichita State University Campis of Applied Sciences and Technology

I. General Information and Program Identification

Program Title	Electric Power Distribution
Degree Level(s) and Credit Hours	Technical Certificate B/42 credit hours, and Associate of Applied Science/63 credit hours
Responsible Department or Unit	Jessi Lane, Dean, Applied Technologies
CIP Code	46.0301 Electrical and Power Transmission Installation/Installer, General
SOC Code	49-9051 Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers
Industry-Recognized Certifications	OSHA 30, NCCER Core, NCCER Electric Power Distribution
Clinical Sites/Work-Based Learning	AAS students complete two internships totaling 270 hours, and WSU Tech will collaborate with providers to ensure placement opportunities
Number of Projected Enrollments	Year 1: 14 Year 2: 18 Year 3: 20
Accrediting Body Approval Status	NA
Aligned Program Status	NA
Proposed Implementation	Fall 2026

II. Program Rationale and Information

Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology (WSU Tech) explained that the need for this program emerged from direct outreach from major utility providers, including Evergy, with several major infrastructure projects planned in the south-central region, as well as the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (BPU), seeking to create additional opportunities to recruit students interested in the Kansas City market.

A degree map was provided in the application, and this program consists of a single pathway or track. A letter of support was included from Maize Career Academy USD 266, as the program will be offered to high school students.

III. Program Demand – Note: High Demand/High Wage occupation, 2025 Kansas Occupational Employment Demand listing.

A. Source: Kansas Department of Labor Long-term Occupation Projections 2022-2032 for 49-9051

Occupational Demand Ranking	237 of 796
Annual change in employment:	0.0%
Annual median wage:	\$102,400
Annual openings:	116
Typical education for occupation entry:	High school diploma or equivalent and long-term on-the-job training

B. Source: Lightcast Job Postings: December 2024 – December 2025 for the state of Kansas

Total postings:	412 Total, (147 unique)
Annual median advertised salary:	\$105,200

Removing job postings with no education level listed, 100% of postings indicate a high school diploma or GED as the minimum education for entry in the occupation. (Including job postings with no education level listed, 570 total postings (222unique) were reported, with an advertised salary of \$86,800, and 66% of the job postings listed high school diploma or GED as education requirement for entry.)

WSU Tech explained that in the most recent Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) report, the CIP/SOC code combination associated with this proposal (46.0301/49-9051) falls under the broader NCEC category of Construction Trades (46). The CLNA identifies Construction as an occupational area with insufficient numbers of concentrators to meet regional job demand (p. 13).

Four letters of support for the proposed program were received from Cox Communications, Evergy, Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, and the Butler Rural Electric Cooperative. Supports and commitments for the program include interviewing graduates for available positions, offering internships, and serving on the advisory committee.

IV. Duplication of Existing Programs and Collaboration

Currently three institutions offer this program based on CIP code and/or program title. Below are the colleges, programs, total number of concentrators, total number of graduates, total number of graduates exiting the higher education system and employed, and average wage of graduates who exited the higher education system and are employed information from the 2024 K-TIP report, which includes only technical programs in two-year postsecondary institutions.

Kansas Training Information Program						
2024 K-TIP Electric and Power Transmission Installation/Installer, General 46.0301 and Lineworker 46.0303						
CIP Code	Program Name	Institution	Total # Concentrators	Total # Graduates	Total # Graduates Exited & Employed	Average Wage: Graduates Exited & Employed
46.0301	Electrical And Power Transmission Installation/Installer, General	Manhattan Area Technical College	39	17	17	\$56,188
46.0301	Electrical And Power Transmission Installation/Installer, General	Pratt Community College	151	58	48	\$74,033
46.0303	Lineworker	Kansas City Kansas Community College (new AY2025)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total			190	75	65	\$69,496

(^) small cell protection applied.

WSU Tech collaborated with both Pratt Community College and Manhattan Area Technical College, engaging with instructors on curriculum, assessing equipment, tools, and facility needs, and discussing industry partnerships.

V. Cost and Funding for Proposed Program

The college estimates the initial cost of the proposed program at \$207,000 total. Funding sources include the new program development fund.

Equipment: \$148,000
 Instructional Supplies/Technology: \$1,000
 Faculty: \$58,000 for one new, full-time faculty member

1-29-26

348 NE SR 61 Pratt, KS 67124 www.prattcc.edu 620-672-5641

Dear Members of the Technical Education Authority,

As Interim President of Pratt Community College, I write to formally express the College's opposition to Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology's (WSU Tech) request to establish an independent Electrical Powerline Technology (Lineworker) program.

For more than 15 years, Pratt Community College has been one of only two state-approved providers of Electrical Powerline Technology in Kansas, delivering this highly specialized and capital-intensive training through a coordinated statewide model that prioritizes collaboration over duplication. Our long-standing partnership with WSU Tech has ensured access for Wichita-area students while advancing the Technical Education Authority's (TEA) goals for efficiency, coordination, and responsible stewardship of public resources. This model has proven effective, sustainable, and responsive to workforce needs.

Through an integrated delivery system that includes partnerships with WSU Tech, Dodge City Community College, Coffeyville Community College, and the Pratt campus, PCC is training more than 100 lineworkers annually. In this occupation, traditional completion and graduation metrics do not fully reflect workforce supply. Due to sustained employer demand, utilities and contractors routinely recruit and hire students while they are still enrolled, often before formal credential completion. These individuals enter the workforce immediately, earn high wages, and complete remaining training through employer-supported pathways. As a result, reported completer numbers understate actual workforce production. Allowing students to complete training while employed emphasizes strong labor-market alignment and employer confidence rather than a shortage of program capacity.

These outcomes align directly with the TEA's performance expectations for employment placement, wage outcomes, and responsiveness to employer need. Measured by workforce entry, job placement, and wage progression, PCC's Electrical Powerline Technology program consistently meets Kansas's expectations for high-quality technical instruction.

Anticipating continued growth in workforce demand, Pratt Community College has made strategic investments to expand capacity. The College recently opened a new Electrical Powerline Technology facility on the Pratt campus, increasing enrollment capacity, modernizing safety infrastructure, and supporting expanded instructional delivery. Since opening the facility, enrollments have already increased. PCC's program is positioned to continue its growth in response to employer needs through coordinated planning rather than duplication.

The existing partnership model between WSU Tech and PCC remains viable, scalable, and cost-effective. This collaborative approach allows institutions to share infrastructure, faculty expertise, and employer relationships while expanding access and building enrollment where needed. Replacing partnership with duplication would fragment enrollment, dilute employer pipelines, and increase long-term costs to the state, undermining the coordinated workforce system the TEA has consistently supported.

While the proposal cites industry interest in justifying a new program, PCC already maintains long-standing relationships with Evergy, municipal utilities, rural cooperatives, and regional contractors, all of whom rely on a unified statewide pipeline for recruiting and training lineworkers. Authorizing multiple competing programs in the same market would weaken this system.

Electrical Powerline Technology is among the most resource-intensive programs in Kansas's technical education system, requiring ongoing investment in specialized equipment, safety infrastructure, regulatory compliance, and highly specialized faculty. The TEA has long emphasized the importance of limiting unnecessary duplication in such programs, and this proposal directly conflicts with that guidance.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Technical Education Authority to deny WSU Tech's request and instead encourage continuation of the proven partnership model that has served Kansas students, employers, and communities effectively for more than a decade. Pratt Community College firmly believes that strengthening coordination—not fragmenting it—is the responsible path forward.

Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to thoughtful, strategic oversight of technical education in Kansas.

Sincerely,



Monette DePew
Interim President
Vice President of Instruction
Pratt Community College



Kansas Board of Regents
1000 SW Jackson Street Ste 520
Topeka, KS 66612-1368
Attn: Technical Education Authority

February 2, 2026

Dear Members of the Technical Education Authority (TEA),

On behalf of Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology (WSU Tech), we respectfully submit this response to the letter of opposition regarding our proposed Electric Power Distribution (Line worker) program.

WSU Tech appreciates the Technical Education Authority's commitment to coordinated technical education across Kansas and values the long-standing contributions of partner institutions in preparing skilled line workers. This proposal is intended to expand capacity and access in response to sustained workforce demand—not to diminish existing efforts.

Purpose and Rationale for the Proposed Program

The development of the Electric Power Distribution program is grounded in documented labor-market demand, direct requests from major utility providers, and regional economic-development projections. Industry partners including Evergy, Cox Communications, Butler Rural Electric Cooperative, and the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities have provided letters of support outlining both immediate and long-term workforce needs, as well as commitments to internships, recruitment, and advisory participation. These partners have communicated a clear need for additional training capacity.

When employers in our service area directly request institutional involvement to meet workforce needs, it is our responsibility to respond with the education, training, and academic programming necessary to build that talent pipeline. Our decision to move forward with this program is a direct and actionable response to their direction and need. Dr. Calvert has been aware for the past two years that this was the direction industry partners were requesting, and the most recent out-of-district approvals signed during that period further validated that intention. Additionally, discussions with Dr. Blake Flanders reinforced the responsibility of each institution to meet the workforce needs within its designated service area.

State and regional labor-market data consistently identify Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers as a high-demand, high-wage occupation with annual openings that exceed the number of statewide program completers. While some students enter the workforce prior to formal completion, employer feedback continues to indicate that demand outpaces supply, particularly in the Wichita metropolitan area. WSU Tech's proposal is intended to address this gap and ensure continued local access to training in a critical infrastructure occupation.

Facility and Continuity of Training in Wichita

Current line worker training in Wichita is delivered at WSU Tech's City Center campus.



WSU Tech provides the location, classroom space, and landscaping for a nominal fee. The proposed program represents continuity of training at an established site rather than the creation of a new facility.

Partnership History and Transition Planning

For over five years, WSU Tech and Pratt Community College have maintained an out-of-district agreement allowing Pratt to deliver technical instruction at the WSU Tech City Center location. WSU Tech provided more than one year of formal notice that this agreement would conclude at the end of Spring 2026. The decision was based on long-term strategic planning, facility utilization, and documented industry direction.

Coordination Versus Duplication

WSU Tech recognizes the TEA's emphasis on coordination and responsible stewardship of public resources. This proposal seeks to maintain and expand local access to training following the conclusion of the current partnership rather than fragment existing pipelines. Over the past six academic semesters, WSU Tech has experienced consistent record enrollment growth, demonstrating the ability to recruit additional students who may not otherwise enter line worker training and thereby increasing the overall workforce supply.

Industry Support and Workforce Alignment

Employer support letters reflect strong alignment with workforce needs and include commitments to internships, advisory participation, and recruitment collaboration. These partnerships demonstrate that the proposal is grounded in verified employer demand and aligns with TEA expectations related to placement, wage outcomes, and responsiveness to industry need.

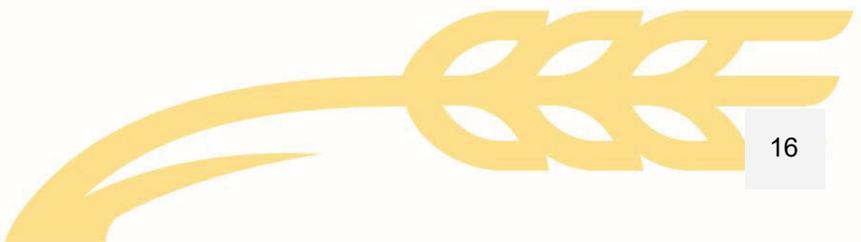
Conclusion

WSU Tech respectfully submits that the proposed Electric Power Distribution program represents a continuation and expansion of workforce training capacity in Kansas. Our goal is to strengthen the state's technical education ecosystem by increasing access, maintaining geographic availability of training, and contributing additional graduates to a critical high-demand occupation in direct response to employer need within our service area.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sheree Utash'.

Sheree Utash
President
Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology



Dr. Culvert,
Just a note of
reminder this is the
last academic year we
will be appointing.
Sharon

OUTSIDE OF SERVICE AREA REQUEST/AUTHORIZATION FORM FOR KANSAS PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

(for delivery of off-campus, face-to-face academic courses or programs offered for credit, and submitted for state reimbursement, by
Kansas Public Postsecondary Institutions)

Pratt Community College is requesting to offer the courses/programs listed below in the service
(Outside Service Area Institution)

area of: Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology
(Home Institution)

during Fall 2025 semester(s).

USD/business/other entity wanting the course(s) to be offered by Outside Service Area Institution and reason/rationale for request:

These classes are part of the Electrical Powerline Technology Program offered in collaboration with Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology (formerly WATC) at the Grove Campus.

List all of the information below for requested courses or, for programs, courses that make up the program:

Course ID	Section # Course Title	Credit Hours	Location-City & County
EPD124	R-21 Electrical Theory	3	Wichita, Sedgwick County
EPD131	R-21 System Design, Construction and Maintenance	3	Wichita, Sedgwick County
EPD136	L-21 Lab and Field Training IA	4	Wichita, Sedgwick County
EPD138	L-21 Lab and Field Training IIA	4	Wichita, Sedgwick County
EPD141	R-21 Laboratory and Field Training I	8	Wichita, Sedgwick County
EPD236	R-21 Industrial Safety and Relations	3	Wichita, Sedgwick County

KBOR Policy, Chapter III., Section A.8.f. and g.: http://www.kansasregents.org/about/policies-by-laws-missions/board_policy_manual_2/chapter_iii_coordination_of_institutions_2/chapter_iii_full_text#ocd

Please respond on or before: 6-20-2025
(Date, 30 days from date of delivery of request)

_____ (Home Institution) hereby approves or does not approve the above **and has contacted (business/requesting entity) to offer these courses.**

listed courses to be offered in their service area during the timeframe given by the requesting institution.

Sheree Hark
Signature of Authorization at Home Institution

Sheree Hark 6/25/25
Printed Name of Authorizing Official, Date

Monette DePew
Signature of Requesting Official at Outside Area Institution

Monette DePew 5/20/25
Printed Name of Requesting Official, Date

Attach this Request/Authorization form to the Request/Approval form for submission to Kansas Board of Regents.
Signature to be included on each subsequent page of courses/locations.

OUTSIDE OF SERVICE AREA REQUEST/AUTHORIZATION FORM FOR KANSAS PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

(for delivery of off-campus, face-to-face academic courses or programs offered for credit, and submitted for state reimbursement, by
Kansas Public Postsecondary Institutions)

Pratt Community College is requesting to offer
(Outside Service Area Institution)

the courses/programs listed below in the service area of: Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology
(Home Institution)

during Spring 2026 semester(s).

USD/business/other entity wanting the course(s) to be offered by Outside Service Area Institution and reason/rationale for request:

The following courses are part of the Electrical Powerline Technology Program we offer in Wichita in partnership with Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology.

List all of the information below for requested courses or, for programs, courses that make up the program:

Course ID	Section #	Course Title	Credit Hours	Location (City and County)
EPD126	R-21	Underground Systems	3	Wichita (Sedgwick Co)
EPD139	R-21	Lab & Field Training IIB	4	Wichita (Sedgwick Co)
EPD142	R-21	Lab & Field Training II	8	Wichita (Sedgwick Co)
EPD150	R-21	Electrical Essentials	3	Wichita (Sedgwick Co)
EPD221	R-21	Occupational Work Experience	4	Wichita (Sedgwick Co)
EPD251	R-21	Transformers & Metering	3	Wichita (Sedgwick Co)

KBOR Policy, Chapter III., Section A.8.f. and g.: http://www.kansasregents.org/about/policies-by-laws-missions/board_policy_manual_2/chapter_iii_coordination_of_institutions_2/chapter_iii_full_text#ocd

Please respond on or before: 11-7-2025
(Date, 30 days from date of delivery of request)

Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology (Home Institution) hereby approves or does not approve the above **and has contacted (business/requesting entity) to offer these courses.**

listed courses to be offered in their service area during the timeframe given by the requesting institution.

Sheree Utash
Signature of Authorization at Home Institution

Sheree Utash 10/8/25
Printed Name of Authorizing Official, Date

Monette DePew
Signature of Requesting Official at Outside Area Institution

Monette DePew 10-7-25
Printed Name of Requesting Official, Date

Attach this Request/Authorization form to the Request/Approval form for submission to Kansas Board of Regents. Signature to be included on each subsequent page of courses/locations.

LAST Approval for this in Wichita

Memorandum of Understanding

BETWEEN

Pratt Community College (PCC)

AND

Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology (WSU Tech)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU") March 15, 2023 through June 30, 2026 between Pratt Community college (hereinafter "PCC") having its principal place of business at 348 KS-61, Pratt, KS 67124 and Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology, 301 S. Grove Wichita KS, 67211 (hereinafter "WSU Tech"), all of whom may be referred to as the "Parties".

PURPOSE. The purpose of this MOU is that PCC and WSU Tech agree to establish the scope of the Parties relationship including responsibilities of the Parties.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises herein contained, and good and valuable consideration, it is hereby agreed as follows:

PARTNERSHIP MANAGER. Parties shall designate an individual partnership manager who shall act as a liaison.

MEETINGS. PCC and WSU Tech Partnership Managers shall hold an annual meeting as necessary and issue reports as the parties deem necessary to complete projects.

Contribution

1. Office Space: WSU TECH agrees to provide office space to PCC employee's at WSU TECH 301 S. Grove location in Building "B" inside the space in B4. This will include one dedicated office desk and file drawer will be provided.
2. Classroom Space: WSU TECH agrees to provide one dedicated classroom at WSU TECH 301 S. Grove location in Building "B"; identified as BS. Tables and chairs will be provided as well as an LCD projector, screen, computer, and white board for instructional materials. The classroom will not be booked for WSU TECH classes and will be dedicated only to the Electrical Power Technology program.
3. Storage Space: WSU TECH agrees to provide to PCC one (1) dedicated storage closet area at WSU TECH 301 S. Grove location in Building "B" inside the space in B4.
4. IT Support: WSU TECH agrees to provide IT support for the office and the classroom located in B4 and B5.
5. Recruiting: WSU TECH agrees to in good faith to provide recruiting efforts for the Electrical Power Technology program located at the WSU TECH City Center location at area high schools. WSU TECH will also continue to work directly with Evergy on recruiting and marketing programs.

PCC Contribution

1. **Space reimbursement:** PCC agrees to pay WSU TECH the amount of \$50 per credit hour delivered in the Electrical Power Technology program located at the WSU Tech City Center location.

2. **"B" Building space up keep:** PCC agrees to keep the common area of B4, the B5 classroom, and the B4 office space neat, clean, and tidy.
3. **Pole farm up keep:** PCC agrees to keep the area within the pole farm orderly and kept free of excessive equipment not in use. This includes any mud and debris tracked in the parking lot from within the pole farm.

Term and Termination. This MOU shall be effective as of March 15, 2023 and continue through June 30, 2026. With the agreement of the Parties, this MOU will automatically renew for consecutive (1) one-year terms. Either party may terminate this MOU upon (90) ninety days' written notice to the other party.

Miscellaneous

Any external or internal signage requested by PCC must be approved by WSU TECH's Executive Director, Marketing and Vice President, Career and Technical Education and paid for by PCC.

The employees or agents of each party who are engaged in the performance of this MOU shall continue to be employees or agents of that party and shall not be considered for any purpose to be employees or agents of the other party.

This MOU terminates all previous MOU's between the parties, and constitutes the entire MOU between PCC and WSU TECH, superseding all prior oral or written agreements, policies, understandings, representations, warranties and negotiations. There are no conditions affecting this MOU, which are not expressed herein.

This MOU may be amended only in writing and signed by both parties.

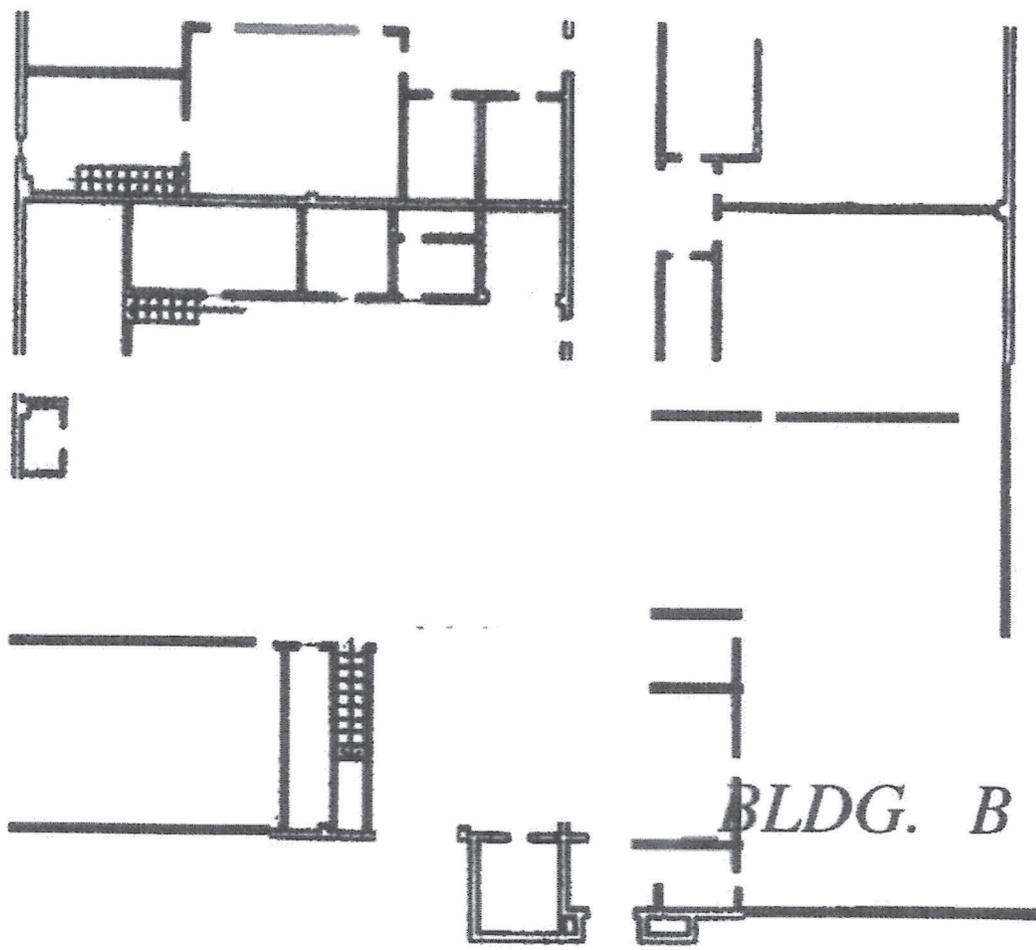
THEREFORE, the parties, acting by and through their authorized representatives, have executed this MOU on the date first set forth above.

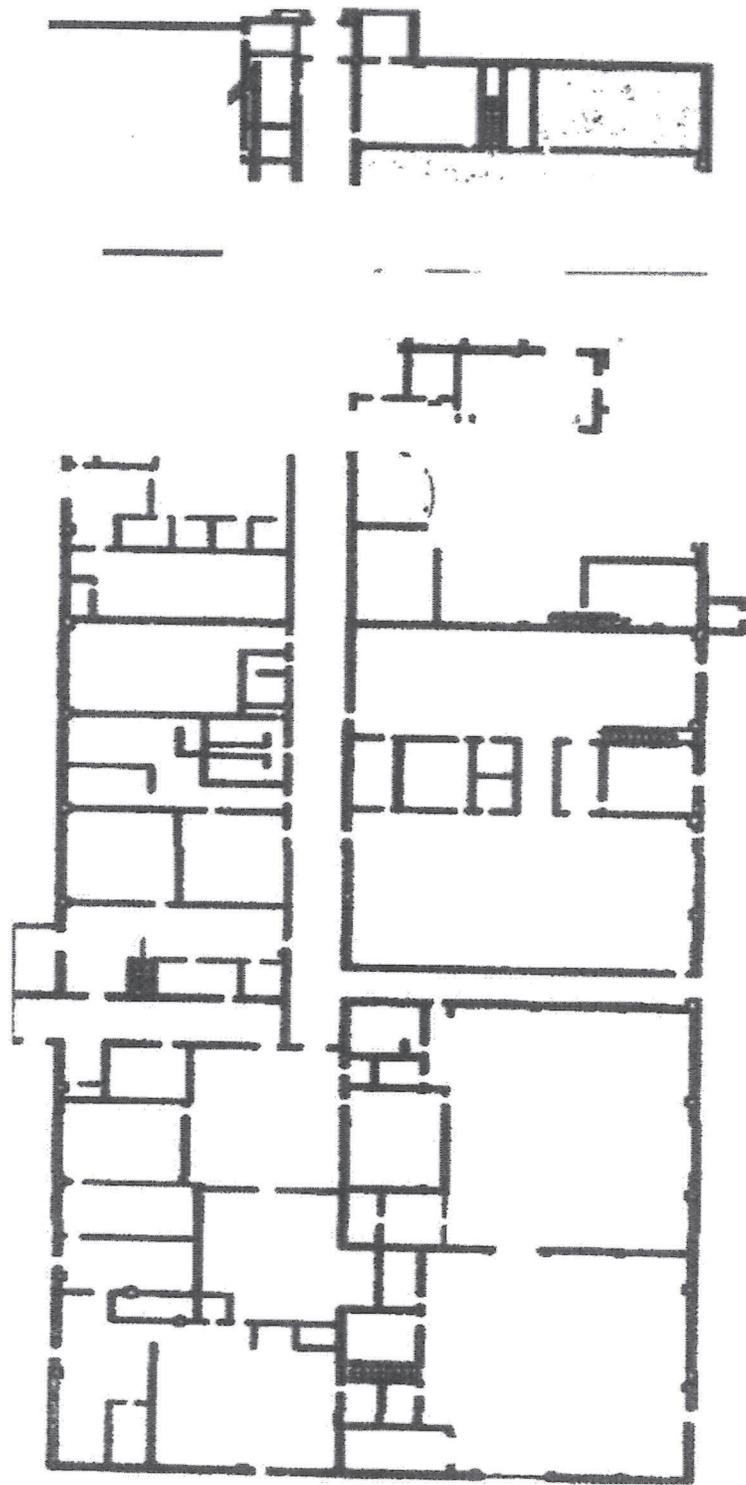
Wichita State University, Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology

By: *Sheree Hash*
 Name: *Sheree Hash*
 Title: *President*
 Date: *3/10/23*

Pratt Community College

By: *Michael D. Calvert*
 Name: *Michael D. Calvert*
 Title: *President*
 Date: *3/10/23*







Kansas Board of Regents
1000 SW Jackson Street Ste 520
Topeka, KS 66612-1368
Attn: Technical Education Authority

February 27, 2026

Dear Mr. Beene and Members of the TEA,

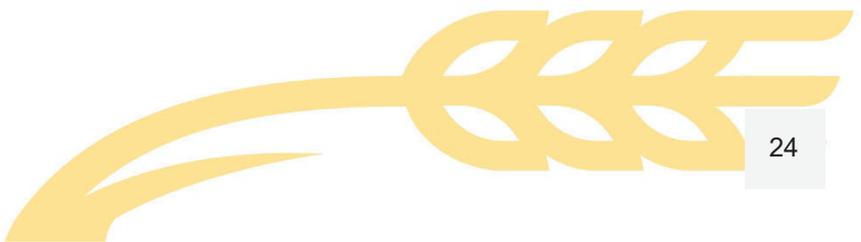
In accordance with guidance provided by KBOR staff on February 19, 2026, this letter summarizes the actions taken by WSU Tech concerning the proposed Electric Power Distribution program.

WSU Tech and Pratt Community College have maintained a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) related to Electric Powerline Technology since AY 2018–2019. Most recently, on March 10, 2023, the institutions executed an updated MOU allowing Pratt to offer Electric Powerline Technology in Sedgwick County at WSU Tech’s City Center location. The current MOU contains a sunset date of June 30, 2026.

WSU Tech provided more than one year of notice that the collaboration would conclude at the end of AY 2025–2026. In Spring 2025, President Utash and President Calvert discussed WSU Tech’s intent to launch its own program, which would result in the conclusion of the MOU. On June 25 and October 8, 2025, WSU Tech signed the Fall and Spring AY 25.26 Out-of-Service-Area forms stating that AY 25.26 would be the final year of approval for Pratt to offer Electric Powerline Technology in Sedgwick County at the City Center location.

The Out-of-Service-Area approvals granted to Pratt Community College were voluntary, time-limited authorizations, issued either annually or through fixed-term Memoranda of Understanding, including the most recent three-year agreement. KBOR policy does not require WSU Tech, as the home institution within the assigned service area, to continue approving Out-of-Service instruction indefinitely. Accordingly, the decision to discontinue annual approvals is fully consistent with Board policy. Additionally, the February 5 TEA discussion focused primarily on whether the existing collaborative arrangement should continue, rather than on an evaluation of WSU Tech’s proposed program based on documented workforce demand and institutional capacity.

WSU Tech leadership has taken several steps to clarify its position. President Sheree Utash met several times with Dr. Blake Flanders to discuss policy considerations and institutional authority. Additionally, after the February 5th TEA meeting President Utash met with Cindy Hoover, Vice Chair of the TEA Curriculum Committee, to seek clarification regarding TEA member concerns raised during the meeting, and met with Mike Beene, Chair of the TEA Curriculum Committee.





WSU Tech's Electric Power Distribution proposal is driven by clear workforce demand and direct industry request. Kansas Department of Labor projections show 116 annual openings statewide (1,168 over 10 years) with median wages exceeding \$97,000. Between January 2024 and September 2025, there were 411 job postings from 55 employers. The Wichita metro area alone accounts for 232 positions.

WSU Tech's proposal is not an attempt to duplicate programming without need. Rather, it is a direct response to:

- Documented high-demand, high-wage workforce projections,
- Explicit employer requests,
- Regional access considerations,
- And WSU Tech's statutory responsibility within its service area.

WSU Tech respectfully requests that the Board evaluate the Electric Power Distribution proposal on its merits, specifically workforce need, employer support, and institutional capacity to meet the demands of Kansas industry.

We appreciate the opportunity to clarify these matters and remain committed to working collaboratively within Board policy.

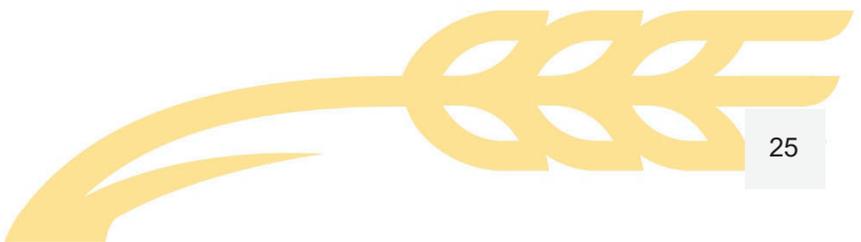
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sheree Utash'.

Sheree Utash Ed.D.

President

Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology



Act on New Promise Act Program, Computer Support Specialist, Manhattan Area Technical College

Background

On May 23, 2022, Governor Kelly signed 2022 Senate Substitute for House Bill 2567, which adopted changes in the Kansas Promise Scholarship Act, K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,271 et seq. The Act also maintains that the Board of Regents will administer the program. Administration is broken into three categories: rules and regulations, eligible programs, and other responsibilities.

Per statutory language (K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,271(b)(4) and K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,272(c)(1)(B)), a “promise eligible program” means any two-year associate degree program or career and technical education certificate or stand-alone program offered by an eligible postsecondary educational institution that is:

- a) approved by the Board of Regents;
- b) high wage, high demand, or critical need; and
- c) identified as a “promise eligible program” by the Board of Regents pursuant to K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,272, within any of the following fields of study:
 - Information Technology and Security
 - Mental and Physical Healthcare
 - Advanced Manufacturing and Building Trades
 - Early Childhood Education and Development

K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,272(a) states an eligible postsecondary educational institution may designate an additional field of study to meet local employment needs if the promise eligible programs within this field are two-year associate degree programs or career and technical education certificate and stand-alone programs approved by the Board of Regents that correspond to jobs that are high wage, high demand, or critical need in the community from one of the following fields:

- Agriculture;
- Food and Natural Resources;
- Education and Training;
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security; or
- Distribution, Logistics, and Transportation

K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,272(d) states that the Board of Regents may designate an associate degree transfer program as an eligible program only if such program is included in:

- a) An established 2+2 agreement with a Kansas four-year postsecondary education institution; or
- b) An articulation agreement with a Kansas four-year postsecondary educational institution and is part of an established degree pathway that allows a student to transfer at least sixty credit hours from the eligible from the eligible postsecondary educational institution to a four-year postsecondary education institution for the completion of an additional sixty credit hours toward a bachelor’s degree.

Recommendation

The following program is seeking approval to become Promise Act eligible programs. The program has been reviewed by Board staff and are brought forward for review by the Technical Education Authority’ Program and Curriculum Committee:

- Manhattan Area Technical College: Computer Support Specialist (11.1006) falls under the Information Technology and Security category specified in legislation. SOC 15-1232 for Computer User Support Specialists was identified as a High Demand occupation on the 2025 High Demand Occupations list from the Kansas Department of Labor.

Act on New Promise Act Program, Electric Power Distribution, Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology

Background

On May 23, 2022, Governor Kelly signed 2022 Senate Substitute for House Bill 2567, which adopted changes in the Kansas Promise Scholarship Act, K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,271 et seq. The Act also maintains that the Board of Regents will administer the program. Administration is broken into three categories: rules and regulations, eligible programs, and other responsibilities.

Per statutory language (K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,271(b)(4) and K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,272(c)(1)(B)), a “promise eligible program” means any two-year associate degree program or career and technical education certificate or stand-alone program offered by an eligible postsecondary educational institution that is:

- a) approved by the Board of Regents;
- b) high wage, high demand, or critical need; and
- c) identified as a “promise eligible program” by the Board of Regents pursuant to K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,272, within any of the following fields of study:
 - Information Technology and Security
 - Mental and Physical Healthcare
 - Advanced Manufacturing and Building Trades
 - Early Childhood Education and Development

K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,272(a) states an eligible postsecondary educational institution may designate an additional field of study to meet local employment needs if the promise eligible programs within this field are two-year associate degree programs or career and technical education certificate and stand-alone programs approved by the Board of Regents that correspond to jobs that are high wage, high demand, or critical need in the community from one of the following fields:

- Agriculture;
- Food and Natural Resources;
- Education and Training;
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security; or
- Distribution, Logistics, and Transportation

K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 74-32,272(d) states that the Board of Regents may designate an associate degree transfer program as an eligible program only if such program is included in:

- a) An established 2+2 agreement with a Kansas four-year postsecondary education institution; or
- b) An articulation agreement with a Kansas four-year postsecondary educational institution and is part of an established degree pathway that allows a student to transfer at least sixty credit hours from the eligible from the eligible postsecondary educational institution to a four-year postsecondary education institution for the completion of an additional sixty credit hours toward a bachelor’s degree.

Recommendation

The following programs are seeking approval to become Promise Act eligible programs. The programs have been reviewed by Board staff and are brought forward for review by the Technical Education Authority’ Program and Curriculum Committee:

- Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology: Electric Power Distribution (46.0301) falls under the Advanced Manufacturing and Building Trades category specified in legislation.

SOC 49-9051 for Electrical and Power Transmission Installation/Installer, General was identified as a High Wage occupation on the 2025 High Demand Occupations list from the Kansas Department of Labor.